

William Armistead to George Washington, December 21, 1771, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM MR. WILLIAM ARMISTEAD.¹

NEWKENT COUNTY, Decr. 21. 1771.

SIR

At the request of Mr James Hockaday, am to Signifye to you, my knowledge & Opinion of him; he has ever been an inhabitant of this County, beleive him to be a very Honest man, know him to be very Sober, & Well qualified to keep Accots. & his general Character is that of being Very Industrious also—he seems desirous of Succeeding Mr Valentine in your imploy. if he shou'd believe 'twou'd give general Satisfaction to his Friends, as well as answer every purpose you wou'd expect by employing him—

I am, Sir, Your Mo, Obedient Servt. WILLIAM ARMISTEAD

¹ William Armistead, son of Colonel John Armistead, of New Kent, was major in 1772 and 1775, and a vestryman of Blissland Parish. He married Mary, “widow of Baker, who kept ordinary at the Brick House for Bassett, the niece of James Nicholas, who left her £500 in event of the death of Abraham Nicholas, son of his brother Abraham Nicholas, also a specific legacy of £1,000.” (Letter of William Nelson, 1767. See the Nelson Letter-Book at Episcopal Seminary.) He had issue, an only daughter, Susanna, who married first William Dandridge, son of Bartholomew Dandridge, the brother of Mrs. Washington, and second, about 1805, David Dorrington. Major William Armistead died before 1784.—TYLER.